

Lesson Four Overview

The Story of Chike Nwoffiah

Description:

Students will listen to the story of Chike Nwoffiah, a Nigerian theater director who came to America in the 1900s, and discover how his culture was shaped by various experiences, beliefs, traditions, and people. After watching the video as a class, students will have group-based discussions to interpret and contextualize the key ideas he presents. Throughout the lesson, students will use a before-and-after chart to organize their thoughts on culture—answering questions in the “Before” column when they are introduced to Chike Nwoffiah, and re-answering them in the “After” column once they have listened to his account. The lesson will end with a discussion on how students can appreciate people’s cultures and avoid generalizing others into “prepackaged” identities.

The video adheres primarily to a single structure and Nwoffiah presents his stories in a way that is easy to follow. However, class discussions may be required to understand how the details and scenes depicted by Nwoffiah relate to the broader themes of culture and identity. The majority of the video includes methods of communication familiar to students and concepts that are supported well by context clues.

Listed below is the link to Chike Nwoffiah’s talk, which students will be listening to and analyzing.

Link to the Interview: www.tinyurl.com/NwoffiahStory